

In the claims:

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this Response.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving user preferences for entertainment program characteristics from a user at an electronic device;

storing the received user preferences at the electronic device;

receiving an electronic programming guide at the electronic device;

receiving a selection of an entertainment program within the electronic programming guide from a user at the electronic device;

identifying multiple available versions of the same selected entertainment program in the electronic programming guide;

determining whether multiple versions are available;

identifying, for each of the multiple versions, if multiple versions are available, a plurality set of characteristics of each respective version of the same selected entertainment program; ~~and~~

determining whether automatic program selection has been configured;

displaying the identified versions if automatic program selection has not been configured; and

selecting, by the electronic device, if automatic program selection has been configured, one of the multiple versions for display by comparing the identified characteristics to the received user preferences for entertainment program characteristics and selecting the program that has the most characteristics conforming to the user preferences.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying comprises identifying multiple versions of the entertainment program that start within a threshold period of time of one another.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the multiple versions are provided on different transport media, the method further comprising:

identifying, for each of the one or more different channel transport media, a set of descriptive information regarding the channel transport medium; and

wherein selecting comprises selecting one of the multiple versions for display based on the sets of channel transport medium descriptive information.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying multiple versions comprises identifying alternate versions of the selected entertainment program that all start at approximately the same time.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting comprises selecting the one of the multiple versions having the identified characteristics most closely resembling the user preferences for entertainment program characteristics.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the identified characteristics for each of the multiple versions includes one or more of channel transport medium, duration of the version, type of audio support for the version, availability of enhanced programming for the version, language of subtitles in the version, language spoken in the version, screen format of the version, and color code of the version.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
identifying a user of an entertainment system;  
accessing user preferences for the identified user;  
and wherein selecting comprises selecting the one of the multiple versions for display based on a comparison of the identified characteristics to the accessed user preferences.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying multiple versions comprises identifying multiple versions in the electronic programming guide.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by a processor, result in:

receiving user preferences for entertainment program characteristics from a user at an electronic device;

storing the received user preferences at the electronic device;

receiving an electronic programming guide at the electronic device receiving a selection of an entertainment program within the electronic programming guide from a user at the electronic device;

identifying multiple available versions of the same selected entertainment program in the electronic programming guide;

determining whether multiple versions are available;

identifying, for each of the multiple versions, if multiple versions are available, a plurality set of characteristics of each respective version of the same selected entertainment program; and

determining whether automatic program selection has been configured;

displaying the identified versions if automatic program selection has not been configured; and

selecting, by the electronic device, if automatic program selection has been configured, one of the multiple versions for display by comparing the identified characteristics to the received user preferences for entertainment program characteristics and selecting the program that has the most characteristics conforming to the user preferences.

11. (Original) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further result in identifying multiple versions of the entertainment program that start within a threshold period of time of one another.

12. (Original) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein at least some of the multiple versions are provided on different transport media, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further result in:

identifying, for each of the one or more different channel transport media, a set of descriptive information regarding the channel transport medium; and

selecting one of the multiple versions for display based on the sets of channel transport medium descriptive information.

13. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further result in identifying alternate versions of the selected entertainment program that all start at approximately the same time.

14. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further result in selecting the one of the multiple versions of the entertainment program having the identified characteristics most closely resembling the set of user preferences.

15. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein the identified characteristics for each of the multiple versions includes one or more of channel transport medium, duration of the version, type of audio support for the version, availability of enhanced programming for the version, language of subtitles in the version, language spoken in the version, screen format of the version, and color code of the version.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
a program guide controller to receive and store an electronic programming guide;  
a user preferences store containing user preferences received from a user for entertainment program characteristics, the user preferences including a configuration for automatic or manual program selection;

a selection controller coupled to the program guide controller to receive a selection of an entertainment program, to identify multiple available versions of the selected entertainment program, to identify, for each of the multiple versions, if multiple versions are available, a plurality of characteristics of each respective version, to determine whether automatic or manual program selection has been configured, to display the identified versions if manual program selection is configured, and to select one of the multiple versions for display, if automatic program selection has been configured, by comparing the identified characteristics to the stored user preferences for

entertainment program characteristics and selecting the program that has the most characteristics conforming to the user preferences; and

a device controller, coupled to the selection controller, to display the selected one of the multiple versions of the entertainment program.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the selection controller is also to identify multiple versions of the entertainment program that start within a threshold period of time of one another.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein at least some of the multiple versions are provided on different transport media and wherein the selection controller is further to:

identify, for each of the one or more different channel transport media, a set of descriptive information regarding the channel transport medium; and

choose one of the multiple versions for display based on the sets of descriptive information.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein in selecting one of the multiple versions for display, the selection controller is to select the one of the multiple versions of the entertainment program having the characteristics most closely resembling the-set of user preferences.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the characteristics for each of the multiple versions includes one or more of duration of the version, type of audio support for the version, availability of enhanced programming for

the version, language of subtitles in the version, language spoken in the version, screen format of the version, and color code of the version.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining the user preferences by receiving preference information through manual inputs from a user.

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining the user preferences by monitoring the viewing behavior of a user.

24. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying a particular user and applying user preferences for the identified user.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a user interface controller to receive user preferences through manual information inputs from a user.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising user preferences to monitor the viewing behavior of a user and determine the user preferences thereby.